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## TAPESTRY PAINTING.

**T**O paint a scene, or figure subject, on a piece of wood canvas, or tapestry, and not on the plaster of the wall itself is a good idea eminently suitable for these times of constant change when men look upon a house only as a temporary abode. The wall decoration thus becomes a part of the movable furniture and when it becomes necessary to change one's location, the walls can be speedily disrobed of their housings without injury either to the decoration or the building. As to the tapestry itself, some people prefer to make a study of the art of painting and thus produce their own decorations, but to excel as an artist requires natural ability and long practice with the brush. The majority will prefer to purchase their tapestry decorations ready made, especially when an opportunity occurs by which the finest work is thrown on the market at half its value.

An opportunity of this kind has occurred which we will make known to our readers. Mr. J. F. Douthitt of the American Tapestry and Decorative Co. of 286 Fifth avenue, New York, has on hand an immense stock of the very finest tapestries executed by the best known artists in tapestry painting. Realizing the scarcity of ready money throughout the country, he is prepared to dispose of 2,000 tapestries, including every conceivable subject of decorative art, at half their value, and private purchasers as well as the trade have at present an exceptional opportunity to obtain the highest class of interior decorations at less than the cost of production. This is a *bona fide* offer due to the prevailing commercial depression which should at once be taken advantage of.

Churches, Theatres, Halls, Colleges and other public buildings are now being decorated with this modern species of fresco painting and the accompanying illustration of a tapestry, the subject of which is "The Creation" has just been finished by Mr. Douthitt for the chancel of a church and is a type of decoration just coming into vogue for such edifices. It is nowadays cheaper to decorate a church or opera house with pictorial tapestry than to cover the walls with paint or wall-paper.

## DECORATIVE NOTES.

**T**HE hall or vestibule of the ordinary house, being the place where visitors first enter, should be very simply decorated. The furniture will consist of a table, hat-rack, window-seat and one or two chairs. Here all the decorative effects should be

centered on the door which leads to the inner apartment. If it be a double door, it should be covered on the vestibule side by a portière of tapestry or solid colored cloth with a tapestry border. One should avoid the uniformity of raising both sides of the curtain exactly alike. It might, for instance, be raised on the left to half the height of the door, and on the right hang straight down or be looped up in two places. It should run from the left center of the door, and should be looped up by large cords ornamented with tassels. If the ceiling be high enough to allow it, a very pleasing decoration would be formed by a decorative panel of painted tapestry, enclosed in a gilded frame four or six inches broad.

On each side of the door, on two pedestals, should be placed two large ornamented "earthenware" vases. We emphasize the word earthenware because china vases, being more precious and more finely decorated, should be placed in the inner rooms. The table should be covered with a cloth similar to the portière

and decorated in the same way around the edges. On the table should stand a porcelain inkstand and card-tray to receive visitors' cards. If the hall be large the bareness of the walls may be relieved by hanging a couple of engravings, and placing here and there a few large plaques, but no flowers, which should be exclusively reserved for private apartments.

**O**F prime importance in the furnishing of a house is the choice of the draperies. A young housekeeper who recently sought the advice of an experienced friend as to how she should curtain the windows of her new home, about forty-five in all, received the unhesitating reply, "Use dotted Swiss;" and the charming effect that resulted proved the wisdom of the advice. This lovely material is now more popular than ever, and is as charming in a cottage, being neither too simple for the one, nor too fine for the other. It is most effective, of course, in the very sheer qualities, and the best finish for it when used for curtains is a full ruffle of plain Swiss about three inches

deep. A tiny cord should be sewed to one edge of the ruffle, which should be gathered at the same time; and it will then be easy to secure the ruffle to the selvages of the curtains by hand or machine. White cotton cords and tassel or ball fringe, or ruffled bands of Swiss are most suitable for draping.

UP the Hudson in the early morning on the Empire State Express is one of the most delightful railroad rides in the World.



PAINTED TAPESTRY BY THE AMERICAN TAPESTRY AND DECORATIVE CO., NEW YORK.  
SUBJECT, "THE CREATION."